

**INQUIRY INTO PERFORMANCE OF THE NSW
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

Name: Caren & Adrian Lockhart

Date received: 25/08/2014

Partially Confidential

21 August 2014

From: Caren and Adrian Lockhart

To: The Hon. Robert Brown MLC
Chair, General Purpose Standing Committee 5
Legislative Council
NSW Parliament, Macquarie Street
Sydney 2000

Cc: Jamie Parker MP

Dear Chair

Re : Submission to Inquiry into the Performance of the NSW EPA.

We have lived together at the above address for over thirty years. Adrian brought up 2 boys in this home. One of those boys, Joshua, is currently resident in the home with his 6 years old son, . The home also serves as a work place for Adrian, Josh and in part Caren.

We love living in Balmain and have always enjoyed the mix of old and new, the industrial and the residential, the modern and the traditional, the waterfront providing jobs and leisure opportunities. The traffic and parking can be unsatisfactory, the hum of the city constant, sirens and transport noise a part of the background atmosphere, but it was only after the move of the Cruise Terminal to White Bay that we found it necessary for the first time to publically react to the environment in which we live.

The terminal sits at the end of our street as the attached photographs indicate.

The cruise ships that come to that berth pollute our neighbourhood with emissions from their funnels. The stench is often unbearable, requiring us to shut up the house even in the hottest parts of summer, especially as this time is the peak cruising season. We have had to not use our front and back yards because it was so unpleasant.

The ships that come to this berth pollute our area with unacceptable levels of noise in the form of engine/ generator noise and vibration, and in very loud on-board announcements and music.

The effect of the ships has made a significant impact upon the residential location, reducing the amenity of the family home.

However, the most significant effect is the threat to our health.

Adrian has had episodes of sinus pain and headaches not experienced before.

Caren's dry eye condition has deteriorated in the past year and is worse when a ship is in port. She has reported to her doctor a number of headaches over the past year. She has been woken up by the stench of emissions in the bedroom.

developed asthma in 2012 and experiences episodes requiring the use of medication when the emissions are blown our way due to winds.

We worry at the long-term health implications of breathing such foul smelling air.

None of this is what is to be expected by a community living in the highly regulated, social and health conscious state of NSW.

Our regulatory bodies designed to protect us need to be allowed to do their job.

Companies and organisations that work against the common good must be brought into line. They cannot be allowed to continue to harm a community. Legislation must be passed to bring the Cruise Industry operating in Sydney, and all to Australian waters, up to best practice international standards.

As residents of New South Wales we implore you, as our representatives, to make changes to the operation of the Cruise Terminal at White Bay.

The Lockhart Family